

WHAT IS CLAIMED:

1 1. An automatic meter reading (AMR) system, comprising:

2 a reader;

3 a plurality of battery-powered receivers, wherein at least a portion of said
4 plurality of said battery-powered receivers are operably connected to a utility meter,
5 wherein each electrically-powered receiver within the portion of battery powered
6 receivers has a bubble-up period of X seconds; and

7 a plurality of electrically-powered receivers, wherein at least a portion of said
8 plurality of said electrically-powered receivers are operably connected to a utility meter,
9 wherein each electrically-powered receiver within the portion of electrically-powered
10 receivers has a bubble-up period of Y seconds;

11 wherein said reader is in wireless communication with the portion of battery-
12 powered receivers and reads the portion of battery-powered receivers every Z hours, and
13 wherein said reader is in wireless communication with the portion of electrically-powered
14 receivers and reads the portion of electrically-powered receivers every W minutes, and
15 wherein only $(Y/X)*100\%$ of the portion of battery-powered receivers are bubbled-up
16 during a read by said reader of the portion of electrically-powered receivers.

1 2. The AMR system of claim 1, wherein each electrically-powered receiver within the
2 portion of electrically-powered receivers are read on average of $(1440/W)$ times per day and

3 wherein each battery-powered receiver within the portion of battery-powered receivers are read
4 on average of $(Y/X) * (1440/W)$ times per day.

1 3. The AMR system of claim 1, wherein said AMR system reduces falsing of each battery-
2 powered receiver within the portion of battery-powered receivers by $(1-(Y/X))*100\%$.

1 4. The AMR system of claim 1, wherein said reader establishes a read time and wherein
2 said read time is continuously sequenced by +Y seconds until +X seconds from a nominal.

1 5. The AMR system of claim 4, wherein each sequenced read time bubbles up a different
2 $(Y/X)*100$ of the portion of battery-powered receivers.

1 6. The AMR system of claim 1, wherein the portion of battery-powered receivers
2 communicate with said reader on the same frequency channels as the portion of electrically-
3 powered receivers communicate with said reader.

1 7. A method for automatically reading a plurality of utility meters, wherein a portion of said
2 plurality of utility meters are each operably connected to a battery-powered receiver and wherein
3 a portion of said plurality of utility meters are each operably connected to an electrically-
4 powered receiver, wherein each of said battery-powered receivers has a bubble-up period of X
5 seconds and wherein each of said electrically-powered receivers has a bubble-up period of Y

seconds, and wherein each of said receivers is capable of being wirelessly read by a reader, the method comprising the steps of:

establishing a read period for said battery-powered receivers;
establishing a minute-based read period for said electrically-powered receivers,
wherein said read period is represented by W ;
reading said electrically-powered receivers on average of $1440/W$ times per day;
and
reading said battery-powered receivers on average of $(Y/X) * (1440/W)$ times per day.

8. The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of bubbling up $(Y/X) * 100\%$ of said battery powered receivers upon reading said electrically-powered receivers.

9. The method of claim 9, wherein said method reduces falsing of each battery-powered receiver by $(1 - (Y/X)) * 100\%$.

10. The method of claim 9, further comprising the steps of establishing a read time for said reader and sequencing said read time by $+Y$ seconds until $+X$ seconds from a nominal is reached.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein each sequenced read time bubbles up a different $(Y/X) * 100\%$ of the battery-powered receivers.

1 12. The method of claim 9, wherein said battery-powered receivers communicate on the
2 same frequency channels as the electrically-powered receivers.

1 13. An automatic meter reading (AMR) system, comprising:

2 a reader; and

3 a plurality of utility meters, wherein a portion of said plurality of utility meters are
4 each operably connected to a battery-powered receiver and wherein a portion of said
5 plurality of utility meters are each operably connected to an electrically-powered
6 receiver, wherein each of said battery-powered receivers has a bubble-up period of X
7 seconds and wherein each of said electrically-powered receivers has a bubble-up period
8 of Y seconds and a minute-based read period of W, and wherein each of said receivers is
9 capable of being wirelessly read by said reader,

10 wherein said reader reads said electrically-powered receivers on average of
11 1440/W times per day and wherein said reader reads said battery-powered receivers on
12 average of $(Y/X) \cdot (1440/W)$ times per day.

1 14. The AMR system of claim 13, wherein said reader bubbles up $(Y/X) \cdot 100\%$ of the
2 battery-powered receivers upon reading the electrically-powered receivers.

1 15. The AMR system of claim 13, wherein the AMR system reduces falsing of the battery-
2 powered receiver by $(1 - (Y/X)) \cdot 100\%$.

1 16. The AMR system of claim 13, wherein said reader has a read time and wherein said read
2 time is sequenced by +Y seconds until +X seconds from a nominal is reached.

1 17. The AMR system of claim 16, wherein each sequenced read time results in said reader
2 bubbling up a different $(Y/X)*100\%$ of the battery-powered receivers.

1 18. The AMR system of claim 13, wherein said battery-powered receiver communicates on
2 the same frequency channels as the electrically-powered receiver.